

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17 (Cancelled)

18.(Currently Amended)      A method ~~as claimed in claim 8 wherein the degree of nucleic acid methylation is decreased~~ for the production of modified endosperm, which comprises the step of introducing a nucleic acid molecule into a plant, the nucleic acid molecule comprising one or more regulatory sequences directing expression in female germ line cells and a sequence whose transcription product reduces the degree of DNA methylation of nucleic acid in the plant by down-regulating one or more DNA methylating enzymes present in the plant.

19-35 (Cancelled)

36.(New)      A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the transcription product comprises an antisense nucleic acid.

37.(New)      A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the transcription product comprises an antisense nucleic acid to Met1.

38.(New)      A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the transcription product comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a *Z. mays* sequence orthologous to Met1.

39.(New)      A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the transcription product comprises an antisense nucleic acid to a *B. napus* sequence orthologous to Met1.

40.(New) A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant.

41. (New) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the transcription product down-regulates one DNA methylating enzyme.

42.(New) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the transcription product comprises a full or partial sense copy of a DNA methylating enzyme gene already present in the plant.

43.(New) A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the sense copy is a partial sense copy.

44.(New) A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the DNA methylating enzyme is Met1.

45.(New) A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the DNA methylating enzyme is a *Z. mays* enzyme orthologous to Met1.

46.(New) A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the DNA methylating enzyme is a *B. napus* enzyme orthologous to Met1.

47.(New) A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant.

48.(New) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the transcription product comprises a ribozyme sequence.

49.(New) A method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the transcription product comprises a ribozyme to Met1.

50.(New) A method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the transcription product comprises a ribozyme to a *Z. mays* sequence orthologous to Met1.

51.(New) A method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the transcription product comprises a ribozyme to a *B. napus* sequence orthologous to Met1.

52.(New) A method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant.

53.(New) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the one or more regulatory sequences direct expression in female gametic cells.

54.(New) A method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the transcription product comprises an antisense nucleic acid.

55.(New) A method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the transcription product comprises an antisense nucleic acid to Met1.

56.(New) A method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the transcription product comprises a partial sense copy of a DNA methylating enzyme already in the plant.

57.(New) A method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant.